From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Facebook to Shut Down IOS Version of App That Pays People for Phone Activity Access
Date: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 6:01:00 AM

By Sam Sabin

Top Stories

- Facebook Inc. said it will shut down the iOS version of its "Facebook Research" app, which has been paying teenagers and adults up to $20 per month to download the app so the company can track all of their phone and web activity to gather data on usage habits. The program will continue to run on Android. (TechCrunch)

- Facebook has hired three high-profile tech industry critics and experts in the past month to bolster its Washington privacy policy team, with the new hires coming from Access Now, the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the Open Technology Institute. The company said the privacy policy team will grow as it continues to work toward solving its privacy problems, but it's unclear by how much. (The Information)

- Former U.S. government intelligence operatives were part of a team that hacked into the iPhones of activists, diplomats and rival foreign leaders on behalf of the United Arab Emirates through a sophisticated spying tool called Karma, according to former operatives and program documents reviewed by reporters. The operatives worked alongside Emirati security officials as contractors for a UAE intelligence services hacking unit code named Project Raven. (Reuters)

Chart Review

Amazon's white-collar workforce says their warehouses need better conditions
Recode

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

01/31/2019

IoT Evolution Expo	
Federal Communications Bar Association's Internet of Things Committee Brown Bag Lunch	12:15 pm
Amazon Q4 earnings call	2:30 pm
The Aspen Strategy Group Presents: Technology and	

National Security: Maintaining America's Edge	3:00 pm
Center for Democracy & Technology's talk with Susan Crawford, author of "Fiber: The Coming Tech Revolution and Why America Might Miss It"	5:30 pm

02/01/2019

IoT Evolution Expo	
Oral arguments in Mozilla Corporation v. FCC focused on net neutrality rules	9:30 am

02/04/2019

Microsoft Ignite	8:00 am

02/05/2019

Microsoft Ignite	8:00 am

View full calendar

Today's Webinar: Super Bowl & CSR Strategy

Today at 1 p.m. ET, Morning Consult will host a webinar to help companies understand what happens when they get involved politically during the big game and beyond as well as which issues are most divisive for consumers in today's political climate. Register now →

General

Inside The UAE's Secret Hacking Team of American Mercenaries

Christopher Bing and Joel Schectman, Reuters

Two weeks after leaving her position as an intelligence analyst for the U.S. National Security Agency in 2014, Lori Stroud was in the Middle East working as a hacker for an Arab monarchy. She had joined Project Raven, a clandestine team that included more than a dozen former U.S. intelligence operatives recruited to help the United Arab Emirates engage in surveillance of other governments, militants and human rights activists critical of the monarchy.

Canada Gets Formal U.S. Extradition Request for Huawei CFO
Paul Vieira, The Wall Street Journal

Canada said Tuesday it received a formal request from the U.S. for the extradition of Huawei Technologies Co.'s chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou. The formal extradition request comes after U.S. law-enforcement authorities unveiled Monday a sweeping set of criminal charges against Ms. Meng and Huawei.

San Francisco proposal would ban government facial recognition use in the city
Colin Lecher, The Verge

A San Francisco lawmaker is introducing legislation that would make the city the first in the nation to ban the government use of facial recognition technology. The Stop Secret Surveillance Ordinance, proposed by supervisor Aaron Peskin, would require departments in the city to seek approval from the Board of Supervisors before using or buying surveillance technology, a check that other cities have already implemented.

Facebook embraces regulation - reluctantly
Laura Kayali, Politico

On the outside, Facebook is crowing about the need for regulation to fix its global platform. Facebook exec Nick Clegg said just this week that regulation is very much the social media giant's goal.

Exclusive: Foxconn reconsidering plans to make LCD panels at Wisconsin plant
Jess Macy Yu and Karl Plume, Reuters

Foxconn Technology Group is reconsidering plans to make advanced liquid

crystal display panels at a $10 billion Wisconsin campus, and said it intends to hire mostly engineers and researchers rather than the manufacturing workforce the project originally promised.

Koch operation casts wary eye on tech regulation
David McCabe, Axios

The influence network led by billionaire Charles Koch is watching a growing push to regulate Big Tech firms with alarm.

Amazon's HQ2 was supposed to be a win for New York City. Instead it has become a huge political battle.
Shirin Ghaffary, Recode

Amazon's decision to build one of its two new headquarters in New York City was supposed to be a slam dunk. For its political backers, who made the deal largely in secret and hoped for a celebratory reveal, it was a no-brainer.

Stocks Rise as Earnings Ease Nerves; Gold Climbs: Markets Wrap
Robert Brand, Bloomberg

There were gains for most stock gauges on Wednesday as the latest batch of corporate earnings helped steady investor nerves while they await the Fed rate decision and any developments on trade. Treasury yields ticked up slightly as the dollar drifted.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

U.S. Suit Against Qualcomm Over Patent Tactics Reaches Endgame
Tripp Mickle and Brent Kendall, The Wall Street Journal

Closing arguments take place Tuesday in the federal government's suit against Qualcomm Inc. over patent licensing, the final stage in a trial that could upend a business model vital to the chip maker's success in the smartphone era.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

AT&T misses phone subscriber estimates amid stiff competition
Akanksha Rana and Sheila Dang, Reuters

AT&T Inc on Wednesday missed Wall Street estimates for net new wireless subscribers who pay a monthly bill, as the company struggled to attract customers in a saturated U.S. phone market. The second-largest U.S. wireless carrier by subscribers faces competition from companies such as T-Mobile US Inc and Sprint Corp, who offer lower-priced phone plans.

AT&T Wants to Be Big in Entertainment. First, It Has a $49 Billion Problem to Fix.
Drew FitzGerald, The Wall Street Journal

When AT&T Inc. took over DirecTV in 2015, a group of executives from the two companies gathered at Fleming's steakhouse in El Segundo, Calif., to celebrate the deal. Toward the end of the dinner, DirecTV chief Mike White stood up, drew a lightsaber and handed it to an executive of AT&T, saying it might help in future negotiations with channel owners.

Doyle: Net Neutrality Will Be First Subcommittee Hearing
John Eggerton, Broadcasting & Cable

New House Communications Subcommittee chairman Mike Doyle said Tuesday (Jan. 29) that net neutrality will be the subject of the first subcommittee hearing under his chairmanship. That came in a speech to the State of the Net conference in Washington.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

Apple tops lowered expectations but warns sales will fall further
Ina Fried, Axios

Apple reported quarterly financial results Tuesday that narrowly beat the expectations set when Apple issued a rare earnings warning at the beginning of the month. However, its outlook for the current quarter was even more disappointing than some analysts were anticipating.

Facebook's Messenger Kids: Child advocates call for shutdown of app
Queenie Wong, CNET

Facebook should shut down a messaging app aimed at children under 13 years old, child advocates said Tuesday in a letter to the company. The missive

follows a report last week that the social network duped kids into spending their parents' money on online games.

Facebook Under Pressure to Show That Users Are Sticking Around Despite Scandals Play Video
Danielle Abril, Fortune

Despite a series of scandals at Facebook during the past year, users aren't rushing for the exits. The number of users and the amount of time they're spending on Facebook is stabilizing and possibly even growing, according to several analysts.

Google under pressure to remove app from group accused of portraying being gay as 'sickness'
John Bowden, The Hill

Tech giant Google is facing pressure from activists to remove an app from its "Google Play" store from a group that has allegedly describe being gay as a "sickness."

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Senate Dems Seek Answers on Shutdown Impact on Cybersecurity
John Eggerton, Broadcasting & Cable

Some powerful Democratic senators are looking for some answers on what, if any, cybersecurity risks were posed by the recent, and possibly future, government shutdown(s). Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee, fired off a letter to the Department of Homeland Security seeking to "better understand the shutdown's toll on our national security."

Lawmaker: Congress Needs Fewer Committees with Cyber Oversight
Jack Corrigan, Nextgov

Unless Congress consolidates authority over cyber issues, it won't be able to move fast enough to respond to the latest digital threats, according to one of Capitol Hill's top cyber advocates. Rep. Jim Langevin, D-R.I., on Tuesday argued the current congressional committee structure hinders lawmakers'

ability to bolster the country's cyber posture.

Data Breaches Declined Last Year. But Here's Why You Should Be More Worried Than Ever
Danielle Abril, Fortune

Despite fewer data breaches over the past year, people faced a greater risk than ever of having their data stolen. That's because the total number of personal records exposed more than doubled in 2018, according to a new report.

Teenager and His Mom Tried to Warn Apple of FaceTime Bug
Robert McMillan, The Wall Street Journal

An Arizona teenager and his mother spent more than a week trying to warn Apple Inc. of a bug in its FaceTime video-chat software before news of the glitch-which allows one FaceTime user calling another in a group chat to listen in while the recipient's Apple device is still ringing-blew up on social media Monday.

EU urges internet giants to work harder fighting fake news
Kelvin Chan, The Associated Press

European Union authorities warned leading tech companies including Facebook, Google and Twitter on Tuesday that they need to work harder to combat fake news ahead of upcoming bloc-wide parliamentary elections.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

How to Prevent Local Governments from Abusing Cable Franchise Fees
Deborah Collier, Morning Consult

Over the past decade, consumers have been able to access more content at lower cost across many platforms. That may change if local governments continue to mandate massive franchise fees for "contributions" that are completely unrelated to the offerings from cable providers.

The Unfinished Business of the Equifax Hack
Editorial Board, Bloomberg

Remember the Equifax breach? In late 2017, the credit-reporting company revealed that hackers had stolen the personal data of more than 145 million people - including Social Security numbers, addresses, and in some cases even credit-card details.

AV entertainment systems could consolidate all kinds of data
Sudha Jamthe, Axios

Tech and entertainment companies are rolling out infotainment concepts for AVs that could offer passengers personalized services, but require collecting data on their streaming usage, location and more.

Research Reports

The Ten Worst Digital Protectionism and Innovation Mercantilist Policies of 2018
Nigel Cory, Information Technology & Innovation Foundation

From a skewed standardization law in China to mercantilist digital services tax proposals in Europe, when countries impose protectionist policies in high-value, high-tech sectors, they don't just damage competitors; they damage the entire global innovation system.

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